

13605 Jamieson Place
Germantown, MD 20874-1475
October 4, 1999

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Dockets Management Branch
Food and Drug Administration
Department of Health and Human Services
12420 Parklawn Drive, Room 1-23
Rockville, MD 20857

Re: Docket No. 98P-0203/CP1

Dockets Management Branch:

I urge you to grant United Poultry Concerns' petition to ban forced molting of laying hens. Withdrawal of food weakens hens' immune systems, making them more susceptible to infections including Salmonella and Campylobacter, which are passed on to consumers. Desperate birds often eat their waste-infested litter or the contaminated feathers of other birds, as published in *Food Chemical News* (26 July 1999). Please take a step to stop the epidemic of foodborne pathogens infecting and taking the lives of American consumers by placing a ban on forced molting.

Thank you,

Evin J. Marcus
Judy W. Marcus

98P-0203

C/1847

Erin J. Marcus
13605 Jamieson Pl.
Germantown, MD 20874-1475



DOCKETS MANAGEMENT BRANCH
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
12420 PARKLAWN DR. ROOM 1-23
ROCKVILLE, MD 20857

